

OCTOBER 2012

unity^{update}

YOUR MONTHLY UNITY SUPPLEMENT

AS WE ENTER A NEW PHASE

In the wake of the Side Letter 10 vote, we take a sigh of relief and prepare ourselves for the next event - Section 6 Contract Negotiations, which will begin in less than a year. Congratulations to Brett Nevarez and Bill Holcomb, who were elected to serve on the Contract Negotiating Committee. We welcome them onboard and fully support them, as they face the challenges that lie ahead.

The Negotiating Team will be comprised of five Negotiators - two elected (Brett & Bill) and two appointed by the Executive Board with Stacy Martin being the

Bloomberg Businessweek The Dallas Morning News **dallasnews.com**

BRIEF: Southwest Airlines flight attendants approve deal to allow international and overwater flying [The Dallas Morning News]

Sept. 22--Southwest Airlines flight attendants have approved contract language that will permit the Dallas-based carrier to launch flights to international destinations, as well as airports that require flights over water, its union said Friday.

The flight attendants, represented by the Transport Workers Union, had turned down an earlier proposal that would allow the new flying.

"We're very pleased to reach this agreement, with terms that will allow the company to grow and prosper, protect the interests of the flight attendants and allow us to continue to provide the exceptional customer-first service that Southwest is known for," TWU Local 556 president Stacy K. Martin said in the union's announcement.

The vote was 52.3 percent in favor and 47.7 percent against: 3,073 to 2,800.

Southwest's route system currently is confined to the lower 48 states. However, it has indicated it wants to begin international service by 2015. Its May 2011 acquisition, AirTran Airways, already flies to a number of near-international destinations.

Southwest's decision to begin accepting delivery this year of larger Boeing 737-800s was done with one eye on serving destinations like Hawaii, Puerto Rico and non-U.S. markets it doesn't now serve.

BUSINESS

The Washington Post
with Bloomberg

Flight attendants say aloha: Southwest moves closer to Hawaii, international flights

By Associated Press, Published: September 21
DALLAS — Southwest Airlines is one step closer to flying to Hawaii.

Flight attendants approved contract changes that will allow the carrier to operate flights to the islands and nearby international destinations that require flying over oceans or the Gulf of Mexico.

The Transport Workers Union said Friday that 52.3 percent of flight attendants voted in favor of the agreement, while 47.7 percent opposed it. They rejected an earlier proposal in May.

Union officials say the deal should help flight attendants as Dallas-based Southwest grows beyond the 48 contiguous states.

"The industry is changing, and a lot of other airlines are securing these routes," said Stacy K. Martin, president of the flight attendants' union local. "We didn't want to inhibit Southwest."

Flight attendants will be required to get passports but the company will reimburse them for expenses. Southwest pilots voted in June to approve overwater flights.

Airlines are required to carry special equipment such as rafts when they fly over water more than 50 miles from shore. Southwest will need those changes to fly to Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

By 2014, it expects to upgrade its reservations system to sell flights to Mexico and other close international sites that also require overwater flying. Southwest's AirTran Airways subsidiary already flies to Mexico and the Caribbean.

fifth member, lead Negotiator, and tiebreaker in the event of a tie. The Executive Board is currently accepting letters of interest for appointments to the Contract Negotiating Committee. The position of Committee Member on the Contract Negotiating Team is of paramount importance to the Membership and the future of our Union. This Committee arguably has the most direct and greatest impact on the Membership's work conditions, income, benefits and quality of life as any role in the Union organization. The Executive Board must consider the strongest qualifications of each individual Candidate - as well as the continuity within the Negotiating Team as a whole.

Qualified Members wishing to be considered for appointment to the Negotiating Committee, by the Executive Board, should submit their Letter of Interest to Recording Secretary Jannah Dalak (recording-secretary@twu556.org), no later than 1800 Central on October 5, 2012.

A WORD FROM COMMUNICATIONS

We would like to express our gratitude to all of our Members for their understanding of the extreme communications practiced throughout the TA voting process. The Contact was extensive due in part of the importance of the TA to the Company and the Union, but also because we were simultaneously running the elections for the Negotiating Team.

Also, due to the impact of negative postings on Social Media, we felt communication was needed to supply the facts, from the Union's point of view, to the Members.

If you were one of the Members to receive all forms of communications (i.e.; telephone calls, emails, text, mail), we regret if you felt overwhelmed.

We are in process of formulating a "customizable communication selection" within the Union Website whereas you may choose how to receive communications from your Union.

We hope to be able to have this available by end of the year. This will be a great tool for future communication. This Executive Board promised to keep the Members informed of Union business and our goal is to adhere to that promise.

IN UNITY

Dean Walker / Robin Brewer
Co-Chairs Communications Committee

TWU Local 555 LAS Unity Day

Our Local 555 Union, which represents Ramp, Operations, Provisioning and Freight Agents of Southwest Airlines, will be hosting a "Unity Day" in LAS on October 18, 2012, 8am to 5pm at the LAS Station near the Inflight Lounge. TWU 556 Members are invited to stop by and pick up a 555/556 Unity button, find out what is happening with their contract negotiations, enjoy lunch and display support for Local 555 as they prepare for Federal Mediation.

Limited SIDA escort space available, so if you are interested in getting involved or attending please contact Valerie Boy 214-640-4310 or email hou-debm@twu556.org. TWU 556 has requested that TWU 555 reserve 12 spaces for our Members to attend the LAS Unity event. Additionally, there will be 555/556 buttons in Inflight Lounges beginning September 20th. Please support Local 555!

Welcome Denver DEBM

Congratulations to Chris Sullivan, our newly appointed Denver Domicile Executive Board Member (DEBM). Chris began his career with Southwest Airlines as a Flight Attendant in class 191, graduating in October 2001. After moving to Baltimore, he became involved with the Union as a Precinct Captain. In 2004, he was elected as Shop Steward, and served until 2012. He is also a member of the Southwest Airlines Care Team since 2006, and is still serving in that capacity.

In early 2007, Chris began commuting to BWI from DEN. Living in a downtown Denver loft near Coors Field, he enjoys snowboarding and competitive trail running in his spare time.

"I am looking forward to helping build the Denver base into, what I am sure will be the best in the system" states Chris. We welcome him and already love his enthusiasm.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

DALLAS

Friday October 12, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
TWU Local 556 Union Office
7929 Brookriver Drive Suite 750, Dallas, TX 75247
(214) 640-4300

ORLANDO

Monday October 15, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Hyatt Regency Orlando Airport
9300 Airport Blvd., Orlando, FL 32827
(407) 825-1234

HOUSTON

Tuesday October 16, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Houston Hobby Airport
Astros Room-down the hall from the FA lounge
(713) 845-2140

LAS VEGAS

Wednesday October 17, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Hampton Inn Tropicana, Fiji Room
4975 Dean Martin Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89118
(702) 948-8100

BALTIMORE

Monday October 22, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Four Points by Sheraton BWI Airport
1001 Scott Drive, Baltimore, MD 21240
(410) 859-3300

CHICAGO

Friday October 26, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Hampton Inn Chicago-Midway Airport
6540 S. Cicero Ave, Bedford Park, IL 60638
(708) 496-1900

DENVER

Wednesday November 7, 2012, 12:00 P.M.
Denver International Airport
City Conference Room 6th Floor
Main Terminal Westside
(303) 342-2347

OAKLAND

Thursday November 8, 2012, 10:00 A.M.
Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites at Oakland Airport
77 Hegenberger Road, Oakland, CA 94621
(510) 638-7777

PHOENIX

Friday November 9, 2012, 10:30 A.M.
Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
Phoenix Aviation Administration PAAB Conference
Room - Take elevator next to Dick Clark's to 3rd Floor Terminal 3 West Mezzanine
(602) 273-4391

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THE MAGAZINE OF TWU LOCAL 556



Unity and Unity Update are official publications of Transport Workers Union Local 556, representing the Flight Attendants of Southwest Airlines.

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